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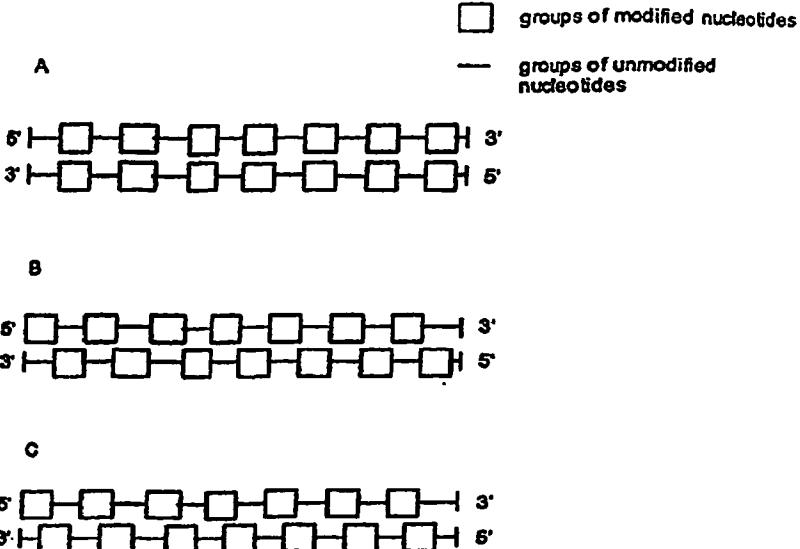
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(54) Title: FURTHER NOVEL FORMS OF INTERFERING RNA MOLECULES



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(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to a ribonucleic acid comprising a double stranded structure whereby the double-stranded structure comprises a first strand and a second strand, whereby the first strand comprises a first stretch of contiguous nucleotides and whereby said first stretch is at least partially complementary to a target nucleic acid, and the second strand comprises a second stretch of contiguous nucleotides whereby said second stretch is at least partially identical to a target nucleic acid, and whereby the double stranded structure is blunt ended.



- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12N15/11 C07H21/00 A61K31/713 C12Q1/68 A01K67/027
C12N5/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12N C07H A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PARRISH S ET AL: "Functional anatomy of a dsRNA trigger: Differential requirement for the two trigger strands in RNA interference" MOLECULAR CELL, vol. 6, no. 5, November 2000 (2000-11), pages 1077-1087, XP002226298 ISSN: 1097-2765 page 1081, right-hand column; figure 5 page 1084, left-hand column, paragraph 2	1-5, 9-13, 26, 32, 42, 44, 46
Y	-----	1-46
Y	WO 02/055693 A (RIBOPHARMA AG ; ROST SYLVIA (DE); KREUTZER ROLAND (DE); LIMMER STEPHAN) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18) the whole document ----- -----	1-46
		-/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 February 2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97/41141 A (UNIV JEFFERSON) 6 November 1997 (1997-11-06) page 12 – page 15, paragraph D. claims; figures	1-3, 5, 9, 26, 32, 33, 36, 37, 40-46
A	WO 95/13834 A (GIACHETTI CHRISTINA ; GENTA INC (US); REYNOLDS MARK A (US); ARNOLD LYL) 26 May 1995 (1995-05-26) page 10, line 31 – page 12 page 21, line 29 – page 30 examples 17A, 35, 44	1-46
A	WO 02/44321 A (MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ; TUSCHL THOMAS (DE); ELBASHIR SAYDA (DE); LEN) 6 June 2002 (2002-06-06) page 4 – page 14 page 46, paragraph 3.2.4 page 49, paragraph 3.4 claims; figures	1-46
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational application No.
PCT/EP 03/08666**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claim 46 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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